

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF CHURCH

HEALTH
A 24 OCT 51
C.R.

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health



1950

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor T. PRIESTLEY, Chairman to May, 1950.

Councillor J. WILD, Chairman from May, 1950.

Councillors :

D. BARNES	T. PRIESTLEY, J.P., from May, 1950.
G. W. CLEGG	H. SMITH, J.P.
F. COWBURN	J. A. SHARPLES
J. DEWHURST	W. H. STOKES
R. N. GRIMSHAW	J. WILD to May, 1950
J. W. HOPLEY	J. WILSON, J.P.

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK W. PARE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Part-time Officer

Sanitary Inspector :

J. L. PALK, M.S.I.A.
(Cert. S.I.Bd., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods)

Clerk :

D. S. FINNEY.

Health Department,
38, Blackburn Road.
Church,
August, 1951.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Church
Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Urban District of Church for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

The District remains free from any serious outbreak of infectious disease, and there has been an improvement in the infant death rate.

Vital statistics are provided by the Registrar-General.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector and the Clerk of the Health Department for their help during the year.

I wish also to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee, together with the Clerk of the Council and all other officials for their valuable assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours Obediently,

FRANK W. PARE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	528
Population (Census, 1931)	6,185
Population estimated mid-1950	5,187
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950 according to rate b'ks)	1,807
Rateable Value	£31,364
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£121

Social Conditions and Chief Industries in the Area

The occupations of the inhabitants of the area remain mainly similar to those of the previous year, namely: Weaving, bleaching, finishing and engineering.

There have been no special noteworthy cases of sickness or invalidity during the year, nor does there appear to be any conditions of occupation or environment which have been prejudicial to health.

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of 1950 is 5,187. and shows a decrease of 47 in the population on 1949.

Live Births

	Total		Males		Females
Legitimate	76	..	45	..	31
Illegitimate	2	..	2	..	—
	—		—		—
Total	78	..	47	..	31
	—		—		—

Still Births

	—		—		—
	3	..	2	..	1
	—		—		—
Total Registered Births for 1950					81
Total Registered Births for 1949					97

Live Birth Rate

For year 1950 per 1,000 estimated population	15.0*
For year 1949	18.0
For 5 year's average 1945-1949	17.9

* 1950 adjusted birth rate comparability factor 0.99 = 14.85 per 1,000.

Still Birth Rate

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for 1950 ..	37
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for 1949 ..	31

Total Registered Deaths

	Males		Females		Total
For 1950	37	..	45	..	82
For 1949	36	..	40	..	76

Crude Death Rate

For 1950 per 1,000 estimated population	15.8
For 1949	14.5
Mean of 5 years 1945-1949	14.5
Corrected Death Rate (comparability factor (0.95)	15.01
Crude Death Rate England and Wales, 1950	11.6

Maternal Mortality

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion, 1950 ..	1
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion, 1949 ..	0
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births in 1950	12.35
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births in 1949	0
Mean of 5 years 1945-1949	0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

For 1950:	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	2	0	2
Female	0	0	0
For 1949:			
Male	4	0	4
Female	3	0	3

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births, 1950	26
All infants per 1,000 live births, 1949	74
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births for 1950	26
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births for 1949	80
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births for 1950	0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births for 1949	0

Neo-natal Mortality

Number of deaths under 4 weeks of age	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	13

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Deaths for the year 1950	3
Deaths for the year 1949	2
Death rate for the year 1950	0.58
Death rate for the year 1949	0.38
Death rate mean of years 1945-1949	0.47

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1950

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis. Respiratory	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	5	6
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	9	15
Coronary disease, angina	5	5	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart diseases	3	12	15
Other circulatory disease	1	—	1
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	1
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	4	9
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	2	—	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	<hr/> 37	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 82

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis is shown in the following table.

TABLE II

Disease	Cases Notified										Hospital	
	Total cases at all ages	Under 1	Years						Total Deaths	Hospital		
			1	3	5	10	15	25		45 and over	Total Cases removed to Hospital from district	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
Scarlet Fever	9	...	2	2	3	2	...	...	...	3	...
Measles.....	23	...	6	10	5	2	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	8	...	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
TOTALS	43	0	12	15	9	5	...	2	...	3	..	

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS) 1930

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board. The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board and the Public Health Department is notified of housing conditions and environment generally. Necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified and deaths from the disease during 1950.

TABLE III

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—2 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2—5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—35	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
35—45	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
45—55 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65—75	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
75 and upwards .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	5	0	1	0	2	1	0	0
	5		1		3		0	

The following table indicates the number of persons on the register at 31st December, 1950, in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations), 1930. There is one more case of pulmonary tuberculosis on the register than at the corresponding time in 1949.

TABLE IV

No. of Persons on Register 31st December, 1950

Total Cases	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulm. & Non-Pulm.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
37	13	10	23	10	4	14	23	14	37

No deaths of non-notified tuberculosis were received.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 :

No action has been necessary under the above regulations, which concern workpeople, suffering from tuberculosis, in the milk trade.

Disinfection after Infectious Disease

Rooms of nine houses were disinfected during the year by means of spraying with the disinfectant Killgerm.

The steam disinfecter is not now available.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172

Removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

No action was necessary.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of attention.
No action was necessary.

The following Sections of the Report, viz.:—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA HOUSING

and INSPECTION and SUPERVISION OF FOOD

have been prepared by

Mr. J. L. PALK, Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Water is supplied by the Accrington and District Gas and Water Board, and to 101 premises by Oswaldtwistle Urban District Council.

The water is obtained from moorland catchment area and deep wells.

Water is supplied from public mains direct to 1,819 dwelling houses with a population of 5,187, and the supply is considered satisfactory in respect both of quality and quantity throughout the area.

Two samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the reports were satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

The whole of the district is sewered with the exception of two farms situate on the edge of the Local Authority and not within suitable and reasonable distance for a connection to be made to the sewer. Extensions to the sewerage system have taken place in connection with the construction of the new housing sites at Howarth Avenue and Dill Hall Lane. The sewerage is treated by the Accrington and Church Outfall Sewerage Board at Coppy Clough, by means of septic tanks and percolating filters.

The condition of certain sewers is not entirely satisfactory in periods of dry weather when offensive odours are emitted from manhole covers at street level. The introduction of additional means of ventilation should effect an improvement.

Rivers and Streams

The rivers Hyndburn and Tinker Brook, which flow through the district, have situate on both banks numerous industrial undertakings discharging their effluents. The rivers are polluted before reaching the district.

Liaison between the Health Department and the Lancashire Rivers Board has been maintained to check any serious pollution.

Closet Accommodation

No. of privy middens	0
No. of closets attached to those middens	0
No. of pail closets	3
No. of dry ashpits	0
No. of moveable ashbins	1949
No. of fresh water closets	985
No. of waste water closets	1231

Closet Conversions

No. of waste water closets to fresh water	25
No. of trough closets to fresh water	3
No. of new water closets made thereby	15

To assist owners of property to convert waste water closets to the fresh water system, the Local Authority contributes the sum of £7. This has not produced, in my opinion, the desired impetus to the conversion of the waste water closets. Although the number converted is approximately three times that of the previous year, when the number of annual conversions in the district is compared with the number of waste water closets, progress is indeed slow.

Progress is not satisfactory, due no doubt to the rising costs, combined with the possible damage of a winter on the water pipes of the

external water closet, and to the exceedingly high proportion of old cottage properties in the district.

Waste Water Closets

253 complaints of choked waste water closets and drains have been attended to by Local Authority workmen. This number, with a little more care on the part of the householder, could be considerably reduced.

Shops Act, 1934

Inspections have been carried out in respect of ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences to shops which consist mainly of the house and shop type.

Two contraventions have been remedied by the occupiers.

In addition, 201 inspections were carried out for the Lancashire County Council, who are the Local Authority for certain sections of the Act.

Camping Sites

There are no camping sites in the district.

Atmospheric Pollution

The most densely populated section of the district is situate in a valley immediately adjoining and on the easterly side of heavy industry and the prevailing wind in consequence disperses any industrial emissions onto the populace. These industries besides consuming large quantities of coal to produce power with the attendant emission of smoke and grit, also, by the very nature of their processes, emit offensive vapours and gases.

The presence of certain of these vapours and gases of chemical origin is emphasised by the naturally high relative humidity of the atmosphere, which is often due in the mornings and evenings to temperature inversion and the proximity of the canal and river to the works and to the vast quantity of steam emitted. The efforts of the District Inspector of Alkali Works of the Ministry of Health (now the Ministry of Local Government and Planning) have (writing to date) produced an improvement.

Smoke observations of factory chimneys continue to be taken, and infringements mainly of a minor character were taken up with the managements concerned.

It is regretted that the abatement of the grit nuisance referred to in the previous year's annual report has not been effected. Some improvements were carried out by the firm but at present certain difficulties prevent a more permanent solution.

The manufacture of smokeless fuels viz.: Gas and coke in Horizontal Retort Gas Works produces a nuisance of smoke and grit in the area. It is to be hoped that the collection of the grit—being partially burned coal—may become an economic and practical proposition thereby assisting to improve the condition of the atmosphere.

It is realised that the atmosphere of an industrial area cannot equal that of a rural area. Nevertheless the inhabitants living near to industry in this small but highly concentrated industrial area should not have to suffer these nuisances. The present fuel shortage is emphasising the need for great efficiency in the use of coal. Efficient combustion in industrial furnaces and domestic fires will result in economy and reduction of smoke thus achieving a cleaner atmosphere.

In view of the present location of industry and the industrial nuisances emitted the councils of Oswaldtwistle and Church have agreed to form an Atmospheric Pollution Advisory Committee.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools within the district.

Schools

Although the buildings are not modern the conditions are fairly satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Removal and Disposal

A weekly service of refuse collection is maintained, and the refuse is transported to Farholmes Tip by means of a Karrier Bantam Refuse Vehicle of capacity 7 cubic yards. Farholmes Tip is situate on the border of the Local Authority, some considerable distance from habitation and the tipping is carried on by the recognised controlled methods. The refuse removal service is under the control of the Sanitary Inspector.

Although as before a recognised type of refuse vehicle is employed in this built up area, a vehicle specially designed for dustless loading would prevent the spraying of dust when bins are emptied into the vehicle.

Street gullies are emptied by a mechanical gully emptier hired from a neighbouring Local Authority.

Street Cleansing

This service is being performed by men of age over 65 years, and does not attract younger men.

Salvage

The separation of salvable material from household and factory refuse continued during the year.

The following is a summary of materials collected and sold:—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	76	8	3	0 ..	415	16	2
Kitchen Waste	61	17	0	0 ..	167	14	1
Rags	2	18	3	0 ..	46	13	9
Non-ferrous Metals ..	0	5	2	15 ..	9	15	8
Ferrous Metals	2	13	1	0 ..	10	13	0
Jars		811	dozen	..	10	2	9
	144	3	1	15 ..	660	15	6

The sale of paper again has increased, rising from 51 tons in 1949 to 76 tons, the highest figure ever collected, and produces a figure of 1.27 tons per 1,000 population per month.

It should be taken also in to consideration that in the years preceding 1939 salvage was treated as refuse and tipped, and if that method of handling and disposing of all refuse returned the present cost of collection and disposal would be increased.

Disinfestation

It is pleasing to report that no cases of bed bugs were reported or found during the year.

FACTORIES

The number of factories on the register in accordance with the provisions of the Factory Act, 1937, is 7 non-power and 42 power.

Non-Power Factories

Nine inspections were carried out in respect of cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and sanitary conveniences, and no contraventions were observed.

Power Factories

Sixty-five inspections were carried out in respect of sanitary accommodation. No contraventions were observed.

Offensive Trades

The only offensive trade in the town in pre-war days, that of tallow melter, has not be recommenced. As during the days of the war, the processing of kitchen waste for hen and pig food received from surrounding districts is carried on at that factory.

At times offensive effluvium is emitted and the question of a more efficient treatment of the waste gases is under consideration.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1950

No. of premises visited	3503
Defects or nuisances discovered	532
Defects or nuisances abated	538
No. of notices served—(a) Informal	406
(b) Statutory	5
Legal Proceedings	0

CLASSIFICATION OF INSPECTIONS

Houses—complaints and re-visits	385
Interviews—owners and property repairers	230
Choked waste-water closets and defective drains	252
Examining drains whilst work in progress	75
New drains	66
Conversions of waste-water closets	97
Dust Bins	100
Rodent Control	47
Dirty and verminous premises	9
Refuse removal	131
Salvage	76
Infectious diseases	26
Public conveniences	40
Food-preparing premises, butchers' shops, meat-pie factories, fried fish shops, ice-cream, bakehouses, cafes, kitchens and canteens	180
Shops and offices	181
Factories	74
Smoke observations, interviews, inspections	98
Sundry inspections	60
Shops Act, 1934, Inspections for L.C.C.	201
Council Houses—Tenancies, inspections and interviews	44
Street Cleansing	47
Rodent Control—Operator's visits	1036
Chemical Emissions	48
	3,503

Improvements Effected

Dwelling Houses—

Roofs	35
Gutters	22
Downspoutings	15
Windows—Sash cords	38
Repairs	41
Ceiling plaster	15
Wall plaster	9
Floors	4
Doors	3
Internal walls waterproofed	9
External walls	5
Chimney stacks and flues	9
Handrails	1
Drains	53
Waste water closets	34
Water closets	4
Dust Bins	75
Miscellaneous	8
Food Premises	15
Shops Act	2
Rats and Mice	108
Miscellaneous	33
	538

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The rodent control scheme has continued throughout the year with much success.

The present arrangements whereby the services of the Rodent Operator are shared by the adjacent Urban District, Oswaldtwistle, and this Local Authority, continues to function satisfactorily.

Treatment has been carried out using the methods as recommended by the Directorate of Infestation Control.

During the year free treatment to dwelling-houses was given by the Local Authority.

Ninety-five treatments against Rodents were carried out as follows:—

	Private Dwellings. Business Premises. Local Authority.			
Rats	2	..	26	.. 8
Mice	56	..	3	.. 0
	—		—	—
Total	58	..	29	.. 8
	—		—	—

In addition, two treatments of the sewers have been carried out, which, in y opinion, play a large part in reducing the rat population of the district.

A certain number of rat infestations have been traced to defective drains, and after treatment has been carried out the particular section of the Public Health Act has been invoked in order to effect repairs to the drainage system.

HOUSING STATISTICS

		Conversion of houses to flats.	Prefab. houses. T'por'ry.	Permanent.	Traditional permanent houses.
Number of new houses erected during the year:—					
(i) By the Local Authority ..	4	..	0	0	.. 24
(ii) By other Local Authorities	0	..	0	0	.. 0
(iii) By other bodies or persons	1	..	0	0	.. 2

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses

1	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	49
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	56
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
4	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	48

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	46
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3. Action under Statutory Powers

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1 Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
2 Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4. Number of houses demolished or closed without service of formal notice	2

5. Housing Act, Part IV—Overcrowding

(a) 1 Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..	5
2 Number of families dwelling therein	6
3 Number of persons dwelling therein	41
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) 1 Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
2 Number of persons concerned in such cases	22

6. Housing Act, 1949

(a) 1 Number of schemes submitted—(a) By private individuals	0
(b) By the Local Authority	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses affected	0
(b) 1 Number of schemes approved—(a) By private individuals	0
(b) By the Local Authority	0
2 Number of dwelling-houses affected	0
3 Number of additional separate dwellings provided	0
(c) Any other action taken	0

HOUSING CONDITIONS

General Observations

Little improvement has taken place in the housing conditions. The work of carrying out some of the provisions of the Housing Act in respect of unfit dwellings, in common with other Local Authorities, is held up.

Requirements

- 1 Houses to meet the immediate need of the recently married who have not been able to set up home on their own account.
- 2 Houses chiefly of the two-bedroom and three-bedroom type, the latter to provide for a family in which there are children of the opposite sex.
- 3 Bungalows for aged persons to accommodate one or two persons.
- 4 Houses required to replace the unfit houses which will be demolished at some time in the future.

It is apparent that during early 1952 the needs of Sections 1 and 2 will be approximately realised and consideration should be given to a greater number of one-bedroom houses suitable for single persons or couples who represent a large proportion of the population, as well as for aged persons.

Overcrowding

The number of cases of overcrowding according to the Fifth Schedule of the Housing Act is small, there being two less than the previous year, but there are approximately 50 houses in which two families are living. Although overcrowding may not be caused to contravene the Housing Act, nevertheless undesirable housing conditions are being created.

Clearance Area

An area consisting of six houses was scheduled in 1939 for treatment and in view of the war conditions no action was taken. Since then four houses have become derelict and have gradually been demolished and it is pleasing now to record that during the year, as the result of informal action of the remaining two houses, one has been demolished and an undertaking has been accepted in the case of the other.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The conversion of waste water closets.

The conversion of trough closets at factories.

The provision of a Public Baths and Wash-house.

It should be stated in support of the third requirement that more than half the houses of the district consist of four or five-room dwelling-houses in which it is extremely difficult and well-nigh impossible to provide satisfactory accommodation for a bath. Again it is observed that often the dirtier the workers' occupation the less likely it is that their dwelling-houses will be provided with a bath or even satisfactory means of obtaining hot water.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk Supply

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Own Dairies in the district	0
(b) Dairy Farms in the district	0
(c) Premises outside the district	7
(d) Premises other than dairy	22

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers' licences including supplementary licences issued by the local authority during 1950 in respect of:—

Tuberculin-Tested Milk:

(i) Bottling .. 0.	(ii) Distribution .. 8.
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Accredited Milk:

(i) Bottling .. 0.	(ii) Distribution .. 0.
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The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of licences issued in respect of Heat Treated Milk:	Pasteurising Plants	0
	Sterilising Plants	0
	Retail Distributors:	
	(a) Pasteurised	8
	(b) Sterilised	20

Action taken by Local Authority in relation to:—

(a) Raw Milk:

	No.		Sat.		Unsat.
(i) Tuberculosis-biological tests ..	15	..	15	..	0
(ii) Bacteriological examinations	28	..	16	..	12
(iii) Sediment Tests	0	..	0	..	0

(b) Heat Treated Milk:

(i) Phosphatase	6	..	6	..	0
(ii) Turbidity Test	1	..	1	..	0
(iii) Methylene Blue Reduct'n Test	6	..	6	..	0
(iv) Tuberculosis	0	..	0	..	0

2. Milk and Other Foods

(a) There are no Slaughter Houses within the district. Meat is transported in closed lorries from Accrington Abattoir to butchers' shops.

Seventy-five inspections were carried out at food shops and vehicles and I am pleased to report that on six occasions where it has been considered necessary to draw the attention of the occupiers to contraventions improvement were effected.

(b) No cases of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning have been notified.

3. Adulteration of Foods

This Local Authority is not a Food and Drugs Authority, and the work of carrying into execution and enforcing the section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—

- (a) Which relate to the composition of food and drugs;
- (b) Which relates to additions not to be made to milk and liquids to be sold as milk;

and together with certain Orders and Regulations, with a view to securing that food and drugs are sold only in a pure and genuine condition, is performed by the County Council.

4. Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14

L.C.C. (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, Sec. 115-116.

The number of food-preparing premises on the register of the Local Authority in accordance with the above Acts is:—

1	Ice-Cream (a) For sale	16
	(b) The manufacture for sale	0
2	(a) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meats	19
	(b) Preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved fish	8
	(c) Preparation or manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved other foods	1
3	No. of Hawkers of Meat, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	2

During the year 105 visits of inspection were made. Attention was paid to the cleanliness of the premises, appliances and personnel employed. In 9 instances improvements were carried out to registered premises.

4 Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947/8.

The coming into operation of these regulations has altered completely the method of storing the ice-cream in the shops, the wet ice conservator has been superseded by the electric. The position of the street trader is not so clear and definite.

No manufacture of Ice-Cream is carried on within the district. The results of samples of ice-cream submitted to the Methylene Blue Test are as follows:—

Grades	I	2
	II	0
	III	8
	IV	1

A suggestion of the Ministry of Health which has been followed is "that if, out of the four grades recommended, ice-cream consistently fails to reach Grades 1 and 2, it would be reasonable to regard this as indicating defects of manufacture or of handling which call for further investigation."

